

# AUSTRALIAN SOCIAL INCLUSION BOARD

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## Outcomes of the meeting of the Board on 26 August, 2009

### Welcome and Chair's report

#### The Board:

- noted apologies from Eddie McGuire, Fiona Stanley and Chris Sarra, and
- noted Ahmed Fahour's resignation to take up an overseas position.
- noted the Chair's report on key items since the 27 May meeting, including:
  - › Chair's letter to the Deputy Prime Minister on meeting outcomes
  - › Deputy Prime Minister's reply to the Chair
  - › Release of the Board's Compendium of Social Inclusion Indicators
  - › Chair's meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister on 20 August 2009
  - › Launch of the Australian Public Service Social Inclusion Policy Design & Delivery Toolkit
- discussed press coverage of the Compendium and agreed the Board will set in advance the timing of future Board releases.

### Jobless Families

#### Board project - welfare conditionality

#### The Board:

- noted the work so far by the SIU on the welfare conditionality paper.
- agreed to commission further work to broaden the scope of the paper.

#### Update on pilot of socially inclusive service models for the jobless

#### The Board:

- noted the report by DEEWR, on the family-centred employment pilots underway in Broadmeadows (VIC), Goodna (QLD), and Mansfield Park (SA).
- suggested that the pilot steering groups have greater power to allocate services to people in need (along the lines of the South Australian model).

#### Board project – social procurement, social enterprise & intermediate labour markets

#### The Board:

- noted the work so far by the SIU on the social procurement paper.
- agreed to undertake further work on the overall social and economic value of social procurement, social enterprises and intermediate labour markets.

### Locational Disadvantage

#### The Board:

- noted how the Board's advice on locational disadvantage has been used by the Government in place-based approaches that address social exclusion in the most disadvantaged suburbs within the 20 priority employment regions announced as part of the Jobs Fund.

## Communicating Social Inclusion

The Board:

- noted the main findings of the consultancy completed on perceptions of the language of the social inclusion agenda in the general population and in excluded groups.

## Health Reform Proposals

The Board:

- noted the presentation by Dr Christine Bennett, Chair of the National Health & Hospitals Reform Commission on the *A Healthier Future for All Australians* report.
- agreed to provide advice to the Minister for Health and Ageing on issues and proposals in the Commission's report, including:
  - mental health reforms
  - dental health reforms
  - Indigenous health purchase agency
  - social determinants of health

## Children at risk

Board project - engaging disengaged and disadvantaged young people in education

The Board:

- noted the presentation by Professor Alan Hayes, Director of the Australian Institute of Family Studies on two recent reports:
  - Home to School Transitions (Smith Family)
  - Stronger Families and Communities (FaHCSIA)

Update on Youth Attainment and Transitions National Partnership

The Board:

- noted the update by DEEWR.

Update on Youth Allowance changes

The Board:

- noted the changes announced on 26 August to transition arrangements relating to independent Youth Allowance conditions.
- noted research findings on the reasons given by young people in the Northern Mallee for not continuing their studies.
- agreed to further examine any detrimental impacts on disadvantaged groups.

### Update on early childhood strategy

#### The Board:

- noted the presentation by PM&C on the Commonwealth Government's Early Childhood Development Strategy.
- agreed to provide advice to PM&C on the priority groups identified in the strategy.

### Measuring Social Inclusion

#### The Board:

- noted progress on the Board's Annual Report on Social Inclusion, to be finalised at the November meeting.
- noted the update on the Government's intended National Social Inclusion Policy Statement.
- noted the update on the Government's intended Social Inclusion Performance Reporting Framework.
- agreed to undertake further work on options for a single indicator of social inclusion, including a composite indicator of multiple disadvantages.

### Administration and other business

#### The Board:

- agreed to Chair receiving fortnightly updates from the SIU on the National Policy Statement on Social Inclusion.
- requested that the Chair attend the (18 September) meeting of Social Inclusion Ministers on behalf of the Board.
- agreed to schedule six Board meetings for 2010 , including meetings in Alice Springs, Townsville and Adelaide.
- noted update on the Government's Social Inclusion Conference in January 2010
- noted correspondence received May to August 2009.